

## Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 IO-10 ISO-00 ACDA-05 SS-15 ERDA-05

CIAE-00 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01

PM-03 PRS-01 SAJ-01 SAM-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00

NSC-05 BIB-01 DODE-00 OES-03 FEA-01 /093 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/WE:REBARBOUR:VE

APPROVED BY EUR;JLOWENSTEIN

D: R.DUEMLING

ACDA: F.C.IKLE

C: H.SONNENFELDT

S/S: WHLUERS

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R 210014Z MAR 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ROME

INFO USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 063983

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, IT

SUBJECT: ITALY AND THE NPT

1. ADOLFO BATTAGLIA, UNDER SECRETARY, ITALIAN MFA, MET WITH THE ACTING SECRETARY, ACDA DIRECTOR IKLE AND THE COUNSELOR DURING BATTAGLIA'S MARCH 18 WASHINGTON VISIT. THE ACTING SECRETARY SAID HE APPRECIATED BATTAGLIA'S VISIT, WHICH CO-INCIDED WITH HIS INTENTION TO CALL IN ITALIAN AMBASSADOR ORTONA TO EMPHASIZE THE IMPORTANCE WE ATTACH TO ITALY'S COMPLETING EXPEDITIOUSLY THE NPT RATIFICATION PROCESS. WE WERE PLEASED THAT THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS HAD APPROVED LEGISLATION AND PRESENTED IT TO PARLIAMENT, AND HOPED PARLIAMENT WOULD ACT IN TIME FOR ITALY TO PARTICIPATE FULLY  
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IN THE MAY REVIEW CONFERENCE. THE ITALIAN RATIFICATION

WOULD HAVE AN IMPORTANT EFFECT ON OTHER EURATOM MEMBERS. IT WOULD ALSO HAVE A FAVORABLE EFFECT ON OTHER NATIONS, SUCH AS JAPAN, ALTHOUGH THE PROBLEM THERE DID NOT INVOLVE PARLIAMENT SO MUCH AS THE LEADING PARTY ITSELF.

2. BATTAGLIA AGREED THAT IT WOULD BE GOOD TO COMPLETE THE ITALIAN RATIFICATION PROCESS BEFORE THE BEGINNING OF JUNE. THERE WAS A LARGE MAJORITY IN PARLIAMENT IN FAVOR OF THE TREATY. AFTER ALL, FOREIGN MINISTER RUMOR HAD BEEN PRIME MINISTER IN 1969 WHEN THE TREATY WAS SIGNED. BATTAGLIA, HOWEVER, WAS SOMEWHAT UNCERTAIN AS TO THE EFFECT A POSSIBLE SEPARATE RATIFICATION BY THE DUTCH WOULD HAVE. WHILE IT WAS

PLANNED THAT ALL EURATOM MEMBERS WOULD PRESENT THEIR INSTRUMENTS OF RATIFICATION JOINTLY, HE UNDERSTOOD THAT THE NETHERLANDS WAS CONSIDERING DOING SO SEPARATELY, IF OTHER EURATOM RATIFICATION WERE DELAYED.

3. IKLE SAID HE THOUGHT EURATOM MEMBERS INTENDED TO MOVE TOGETHER. THE PARLIAMENTARY PROCESS IN THE NETHERLANDS HAD BEEN COMPLETED AND THE LAST WORD WE HAD WAS THAT THE DUTCH WERE WAITING TO SEE WHEN OTHER EURATOM MEMBERS WOULD ACT BEFORE DECIDING WHETHER TO ACT INDEPENDENTLY.

4. ASKED HOW LONG THE ITALIAN RATIFICATION PROCESS MIGHT TAKE, BATTAGLIA SAID IT REQUIRED A FOUR-STAGE PROCESS IN PARLIAMENT: A COMMITTEE VOTE AND THEN A FLOOR VOTE IN THE CHAMBER, AND A COMMITTEE AND FLOOR VOTE IN THE SENATE. HE HOPED IT WOULD BE COMPLETED BEFORE THE REVIEW CONFERENCE. INGERSOLL

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